

Private Debt Award 2025: 22 finalists for the eighth edition

The award ceremony will be held next June 18

Milan, June 2025 - The eighth edition of the Private Debt Award arrives in the final stages with **22** private debt and distressed debt/turnaround investing **deals** competing for awards during a ceremony scheduled for June 18.

Promoters of the initiative are **AIFI** and **Deloitte**, with the collaboration of **Economy** and **Il Sole 24ORE**.

This year, awards will be given to the best 2024 deals in the following categories:

Development (growth projects by internal routes and/or acquisitions that involve medium- to long-term investments aimed at expanding the company's business by entering new market segments, new geographic markets, developing and/or integrating new product lines or new production capacity, as well as intended for research and development of new technologies);

Leveraged buyouts/Extraordinary deals (financing extraordinary deals by supporting private equity fund managers or others in making leveraged buyouts);

Distressed debt/turnaround investing (plans to redevelop corporate firms in financial distress through corporate revitalization deals, mainly by purchasing distressed loans and/or providing new financing from fund and related players).

An award dedicated to Fabrizio Saccomanni will be presented again this year, for government commitment that has fostered the growth of private debt in our country.

The **Jury**, chaired by Innocenzo Cipolletta and composed of Luigi Abete (honorary president, FeBAF), Andrea Azzolini (director, Deloitte), Angelo Camilli (vice president for credit finance and tax, Confindustria), Giancarlo Giudici (associate professor of corporate finance, Politecnico Milano), Tamara Laudisio (partner M&A deals services, Deloitte Financial Advisory), Morya Longo (head of service, Il Sole 24ORE), Sergio Luciano (editor, Economy Magazine), Giovanni Maggi (chairman, Assofondipensione), Antonella Mansi (sales and logistics director, Nuova Solmine), Luca Manzoni (head of corporate banking, Banco BPM), Dario Voltattorni (managing director, Secofind SIM) brought 22 deals closed by nine private debt funds and two distressed debt funds to the finals.

In detail, the finalists in the **development** category are:

- **Anthilia Capital Partners SGR** for the deal **Blastness**, a specialized company in providing technology solutions, strategic consulting and training for the hospitality industry;
- **CAPZA** for the deal **F2A**, an independent Italian technology services provider for human resources, accounting and administration;
- **Finint Investments SGR** for the deal **ISAIA and ISAIA**, a high-end menswear company, manufacturer and distributor in sportswear and accessories;
- **Finint Investments SGR** for the deals **Meccanica Cainelli and O.M.P. Piccinelli**, companies specializing, the first in the mechanical machining of cast iron and aluminum castings and, the second, in the production of pins and axle shafts for tractors;
- **Finint Investments SGR** for the deal **Niederstaetter**, a group active in the construction machinery, equipment and container sales and rental industry;
- **Finint Investments SGR** for the deal **Paganella 2001**, a company that manages ski lifts on the Paganella plateau in Trentino, Italy;
- **Finint Investments SGR** for the deal **Unionbau**, a South Tyrolean construction company active in construction, renovation, carpentry, roofing and tinwork;
- **Green Arrow Capital SGR** for the deal **Italcer**, an industrial group of high-end ceramics for floor, wall and bathroom furnishings;
- **illimity SGR** for the deal **Omnia Della Toffola**, a company that designs and manufactures machines and lines for winemaking, production, bottling and packaging of beverages;
- **Riello Investimenti SGR** for the deal **Energion Esco**, energy service company which offers integrated solutions for energy efficiency;
- **SICI SGR** for the deal **Montalese (PerDormire)**, a company active in the production and distribution of mattresses and bed systems;
- **Tikehau Capital** for the deal **Jakala**, a company specializing on loyalty campaigns for large-scale retail and B2B sales & marketing services.

For the **leveraged buyout/extraordinary deals** category, the finalists are:

- **Anthilia Capital Partners SGR** and **Finint Investments SGR** for the deal **Friulair**, company active in design and production of dryers, filters, refrigerants and compressed air treatment accessories;
- **Anthilia Capital Partners SGR** for the deal **PPM Industries**, a company specializing in the production of adhesive tapes, both own brand and private label;
- **Equita Capital SGR** for the deal **C.O.C. Farmaceutici**, a group that develops, manufactures and packages devices for the ophthalmic and inhalation segments on a contract basis;
- **Equita Capital SGR** for the deal **Tecnopool**, a company that designs, manufactures and installs equipment to treat and process food products;
- **Green Arrow Capital SGR** for the deal **Corob**, a company of automated solutions for packaging paints and coatings, inks and chemicals;
- **Green Arrow Capital SGR** for the deal **Nutkao**, a company engaged in the production and marketing of hazelnut spreads;
- **Riello Investimenti SGR** for the deal **TB Tauris**, an investment vehicle used by management to acquire a majority stake in IMA Dairy & Food and initiate the corporate reorganization process of the group operating in the packaging machinery segment;
- **Tikehau Capital** for the deal **Intellera Consulting**, a company specializing in consulting services to the public sector and healthcare.

Finally, for the **distressed debt/turnaround investing** category, the finalists are:

- **illimity SGR** for the deal **Zerbinati**, a company engaged in the production of fresh vegetable-based food products;
- **Nextalia SGR** for the deals **PSC Group** and **Italtel**, the former a holding company active in plant construction in various sectors including electromechanical, railway and telecommunications, with strategic holdings including Italtel, a historic ICT company now focused on digital solutions in the Telco, PA, Utilities and FIG sectors.

"The year 2024 marked an exceptional year for the private debt market, with record results on both the funding and investment fronts, proof of the need for this instrument to support business development," - says **Innocenzo Cipolletta, AIFI Chairman**. "This year's 22 finalists testify to the extraordinary variety of sectors in which alternative finance can make a difference. To make this market even more impactful, it is essential to create the conditions for funds to scale up, so they can more strongly accompany the growth of the real economy."

AIFI, the Italian Private Equity, Venture Capital and Private Debt Association, was established in May 1986 with the aim of developing, coordinating and representing, at institutional level, those active in the Italian venture capital investment market. The Association is an organization of financial institutions that stably and professionally make investments in companies, in the form of venture capital, through the assumption, management and divestment of shareholdings mainly in unlisted companies, with an active development of the companies in which they participate.

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AIFI press office
Annalisa Caccavale
a.caccavale@aifi.it
tel. 02 76075324

Deloitte Press Office
Michela Migliora
mimigliora@deloitte.it
tel. 02 83326028